

including coarse cereals in rice based cropping system areas of the State including tribal areas. The scheme was implemented through the State Government. Under the scheme, assistance was provided to the farmers on seed, farm implements and sprinkler sets so as to motivate them to adopt improved crop production technology. Besides, field demonstrations and farmers training were also organised for the effective transfer of crop production technology.

Similarly, a Central Sector Scheme for the "Development of Bee Keeping for Improving Crop Productivity" was also in operation in the State in order to tap the pollination power of the honey bees for enhancing crop productivity. The scheme was implemented through State designated agency nominated by the State and assistance was provided for transfer of technology, production and distribution of bee colonies, supply of equipments and promotion of research and development. Both the above mentioned schemes were in operation till October, 2000 when Macro Management Mode of Agriculture Development was launched.

From October, 2000, ICDP-Rice and many other schemes including Scheme on bee keeping have been subsumed under Macro Management Mode with a view to provide flexibility to the States including Andhra Pradesh to adopt regionally differentiated technology suited to their agro-climatic conditions. A sum of Rs. 1362.79 lakh as Government of India share has been released to Andhra Pradesh under the Macro Management Mode Scheme during 2000-2001 for implementation of various activities as per the action plan of the State.

Bifurcation of DARE

3805. SHRI K. RAMA MOHAN A RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to bifurcate the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such bifurcation?

[20 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEB.ENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal before the Government for bifurcation of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Consumption of Fertilizers

3806. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that consumption of fertilizers has increased during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the domestic consumption of fertilizers in each State during each of the last three years; and
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government to meet the growing demand of different kinds of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) State-wise consumption of fertilizers in nutrients terms (N+P+K) during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is given in the statement attached. (*See below*).

(c) The policy of the Government is to achieve maximum self sufficiency in nitrogenous fertilizers. In the case of phosphates, the paucity of domestic raw material constraints the attainment of higher degree of self sufficiency. Recognizing this, a deliberate policy mix has been adopted to insure availability through domestic production as well as imports.

For increasing domestic production of fertilisers, following incentives are offered in the country:

- (i) Normally no industrial licence is required for setting up a fertilizer plant;
- (ii) Concessional basic customs duty on import of capital goods for setting up of new plants/modernisation of existing units;